

APPENDIX FF

AUGUST 27, 1997

LETTER FROM DR. BERNARD ROSTKER TO HON. JOHN D.
ROCKEFELLER, IV



Special Assistant
for
Gulf War Illnesses

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000



AUG 27 1997

Honorable John D. Rockefeller IV
Ranking Democrat Member,
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rockefeller:

The purpose of this letter is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 29, 1997 to Secretary Cohen. It is the Secretary's intent to be timely and responsive to letters such as yours. The information you requested requires significant research and coordination. We are collecting the information from various organizations of the Department and we are doing all we can to expedite our response. We anticipate that Secretary Cohen's response will be provided to you within the next 30 days. We will keep you informed of our progress and if you wish, we can provide information when it becomes available.

The information you requested on pesticides, fungicides, and rodenticides and the corresponding Material Safety Data Sheets is enclosed. Documents addressing standard procedures for the use of these materials during and subsequent to deployment for the Gulf War are also enclosed. The only specific pesticide that has thus far been identified as locally purchased is a fly bait called "SNIP," or azamethiphos. Local purchase of pesticides is an area of concern in our investigation.

A listing of chemicals used for water purification is enclosed. Thus far, we have been unable to locate any information on water quality data.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or Mr. Kelly Sharbel (703-695-2503) from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs). A similar letter has been sent to Senator Arlen Specter, the Committee Chairman.

Sincerely,

Bernard Rostker

Enclosures

